

REMARKS

Remaining Claims

Claims 1-5 and 46 have been amended to more clearly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Supports for the amendments of claims 1 and 46 can be found on page 7, the second paragraph. After these amendments are entered, fourteen (14) claims (Claims 1-11, 46, 55 and 56) remain pending in this application through this Amendment.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph of Claims 1-7 and 46 has been overcome by the amendments of claims 1-5 and 46. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Knopf et al. ('542) or Hoy et al. ('605). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection over claims 1 and 46 is respectfully traversed.

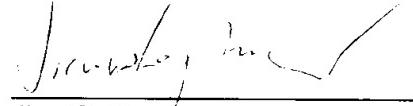
Both Knopf et al and Hoy et al. fail to disclose or suggest anything about the production of low viscosity prepolymers from multifunctional compound having at least three amine or isocyanate groups, diisocyanates and diols. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as currently claimed is not anticipated by Knopf et al or by Hoy et al. and request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing and in conclusion, Applicants submit that the objections and rejections set-forth in the Office Action have been overcome, and that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion with Applicants' representative would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned. Please address all correspondence to Thomas Hoxie, Novartis Corporation, Corporate Intellectual Property, One Health Plaza, Bldg. 430, East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0134.

Respectfully submitted,



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